

REMARKS

Claims 1-28 are pending. In the Final Office Action mailed on January 17, 2006 the Examiner took the following action: (1) objected to claim 5 due to informalities; (2) rejected claims 1, 4, 5, 7, 13, 16, 21 and 24 under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) as being anticipated by Dougherty (U.S. 4258422); and (3) rejected claims 6, 17, and 25 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dougherty in view of Silvian (U.S. 5350405). In the Advisory Action mailed on May 17, 2006, the amendments presented by Applicants in the Response filed on April 17, 2006 were not entered. Applicants respectfully request entry of the foregoing amendments, and reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections in the Final Office Action in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

I. Objection to Claim 5

The Examiner objected to claim 5 due to informalities, namely, the phrase “being providing.” Applicants have amended claim 5 to correct the informality noted by the Examiner. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection to claim 5.

II. Allowable Subject Matter

Without further comment as to the merits of the Examiner’s rejections, and without prejudice to subsequent continuation or divisional applications, Applicants have amended claims and canceled claims to expedite the issuance of the subject matter acknowledged as being allowable.

Specifically, claim 1 has been amended to substantially include (but not identically) the limitations of claim 2 which was acknowledged as being allowable. Claim 2 has been canceled.

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Claims 3-5 have been amended to properly depend from claim 1. Accordingly, claims 1 and 3-12 are now in condition for allowance.

Similarly, claim 13 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 14 which was acknowledged as being allowable. Claim 14 has been canceled. Claim 15 has been amended to depend from claim 13. Accordingly, claims 13 and 15-20 are now in condition for allowance.

Also, claim 21 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 22 which was acknowledged as being allowable. Claim 22 has been canceled. Claim 23 has been amended to depend from claim 21. Accordingly, claims 21 and 23-28 are now in condition for allowance.

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CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that pending claims 1, 3-13, 15-21, and 23-28 are now in condition for allowance. If there are any remaining matters that may be handled by telephone conference, the Examiner is kindly invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dated: 2006-06-16

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